

ABSTRACT

CARR-305

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. 69(72)

1767 (reset 1902)

Georgetown, Pennsylvania

Public/private

Milestone No. 69(72) is an original monument of 1767 at its original site, marking Mason and Dixon's 69th horizontal mile west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line, longest of their survey lines run and marked during their 1763-68 commission to define the boundary between the English provinces of Maryland and Pennsylvania. As with all original West Line monuments, this milestone was quarried and carved in England, of oolitic limestone, measuring about 12" square by about 4 1/2' long, cut to stand as a post about 3' above ground with the base left rough-cut for setting into the ground. It is embellished with vertical fluting and horizontally-fluted margins on all four sides, with a fluted low pyramidal top rising about 2" to a centered apex. The distinguishing features are the Roman capital letters P on the the north side facing Pennsylvania and M on the south side facing Maryland, each V-sunk into a plain shallow circle panel near the top. In 1902, during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, No. 69(72) was reset to stand about 1 1/2' high and surrounded below ground with a concrete collar. It now stands about 1' high, measures about 11" square, and all surfaces are very weatherworn, mottled by lichen and darkened from periodic flooding. But most embellishments remain distinct and comparatively intact. On the federal and state levels, this milestone is significant primarily as one of the series of 135 original monuments still standing along the West Line, the boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. Locally, as one of 18 original monuments marking the present Carroll/York-Adams county boundary (3 crownstones; 15 milestones), it is also significant as one of a diminishing number of objects and structures with a visually identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name) *

historical BOUNDARY MARKERS ALONG THE MASON-DIXON LINE (THEMATIC GROUP)
(Mason and Dixon's) West Line, 69th Mile Stone

and/or common Mason-Dixon Line: Milestone No. 69 (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 72)

2. Location

street & number off south side of Georgetown Road (LR-01056) X not for publication

city, town Georgetown vicinity of congressional district MD: 6 / PA: 19

state Pennsylvania county MD: Carroll / PA: Adams

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status N/A	Present Use
<u>district</u>	<u>X</u> public	<u>occupied</u>	<u>agriculture</u> <u>museum</u>
<u>building(s)</u>	<u>private</u>	<u>unoccupied</u>	<u>commercial</u> <u>park</u>
<u>structure</u>	<u>both</u>	<u>work in progress</u>	<u>educational</u> <u>private residence</u>
<u>site</u>	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u>entertainment</u> <u>religious</u>
<u>X</u> object	<u>in process</u>	<u>X</u> yes: restricted	<u>government</u> <u>scientific</u>
	<u>being considered</u>	<u>yes: unrestricted</u>	<u>industrial</u> <u>transportation</u>
	<u>X</u> not applicable	<u>no</u>	<u>X</u> other: <u>state boundary marker</u>

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

(monument only; see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)
name State of Maryland / Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

street & number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description N/A

(see surrounding property ownership list)
courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.

liber

street & number folio

city, town state

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Carroll County Historic Sites Inventory

date CARR-305 entered 1/80 _____ federal X state _____ county _____ local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Annapolis state Maryland

7. Description

Survey No. CARR-305

Condition

☒ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☒ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Milestone No. 69(72) marks Mason and Dixon's 69th horizontal mile west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line. It is an original milestone, ^{set in 1767} at its original site preliminarily surveyed in 1765; is in good condition, unaltered and still firmly in place, as reset in 1902 during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary.

The area here is rural, rolling, sparsely settled. The site is within Election District 3 of Carroll County, MD, Germany Township of Adams County, PA; about 1.7 miles due south of ^{the town of} Littlestown, PA; about 1100 feet south of Georgetown Road with its scattered settlement called Georgetown; on the north side of an old east-west wire fence and about 185 feet west of its junction with an old north-south wire fence; in a ^{marshy} tangle of scraggly deciduous woods/honey-suckle/briars/multiflora, at a point about 300' north of a small stream. It cannot be seen from any road, nor easily from closeby any season, and is thus protected by the site's obscurity and the fence.

As with all original Mason and Dixon West Line monuments, this milestone is an embellished, oolitic limestone post with a low pyramidal top; was quarried and ^{carved} in England, measuring about 12" square by about 4½' long, cut to stand about 3' above ground with the base left rough-cut for securing below ground. There is vertical fluting and horizontally-fluted margins on all four sides, with fluted planes rising about 2" to a centered apex. The distinguishing features are the Roman capital letters P on the north side facing Pennsylvania and M on the south side facing Maryland, each V-sunk into a plain shallow circle panel near the top. Reset in 1902 to stand about 1½' above ground, No. 69(72) now stands about 1' high, ^{measures} about 11" square and all surfaces ^{are} very weatherworn as well as ^{mottled by lichen and} darkened from periodic flooding. But most embellishments remain distinct and comparatively intact, with only minor chips at the top corners and edges.

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form for full descriptions of the original Mason and Dixon monuments and the 1900-03 Resurvey method of resetting them)

8. Significance

Survey No. CARR-305

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) boundary surveying

Specific dates 1767 (reset 1902) Builder/Architect Charles Mason & Jeremiah Dixon

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/orApplicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ GLevel of Significance: ☒ national ☒ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Milestone No. 69(72) is significant on the federal and state levels primarily as one of a series of 135 original Mason and Dixon monuments still standing along their 230.228-mile West Line, a boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. The site was preliminarily surveyed in 1765^{and} monument set in 1767, where it remains unaltered to this day, although reset more securely in 1902 during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Locally, as one of 18 original monuments marking the present Carroll/York-Adams county boundary (3 crownstones; 15 milestones), No. 69(72) is also significant as one of a diminishing number of objects and structures with a visually identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CARR-305

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than one acreQuadrangle name Littlestown (Maryland-Pennsylvania)Quadrangle scale 1:24000UTM References USGS 7.5 minute series (topographic)

do NOT complete UTM references

A

1	8	3	2	0	4	3	9	8
Zone		Easting			Northing			

B

Zone		Easting			Northing			

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification N/A

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state Maryland code county Carroll codestate Pennsylvania code county Adams code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Alice Martin (volunteer, Mason & Dixon's West Line boundary marker surveyor)organization Maryland Historical Trust &Maryland Geological Surveydate 4/19/80 (site surveyed)street & number 14308 Mount Avenuetelephone 301/472-2128city or town Phoenixstate Maryland 21131

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

3903 (SW)
(GETTYSBURG)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



CARR-305
MASON & DIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE 69(72)

LITTLESTOWN QUADRANGLE
MARYLAND-PENNSYLVANIA
USGS 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
1953 PHOTO REV. 1971 SCALE: 1"=2000'

GETTYSBURG 10 MI.
TWO TAVERNS 5 MI.

321,000m E

5' MT PLEASANT 4.5

77°07'30"
39°45'

2180000 FEET (PA.)

150 000 FEET
(PA.)

440]000m N

4400

4399

KEYMAR 10 MI.
TANEYTOWN 4.9 MI.

4398

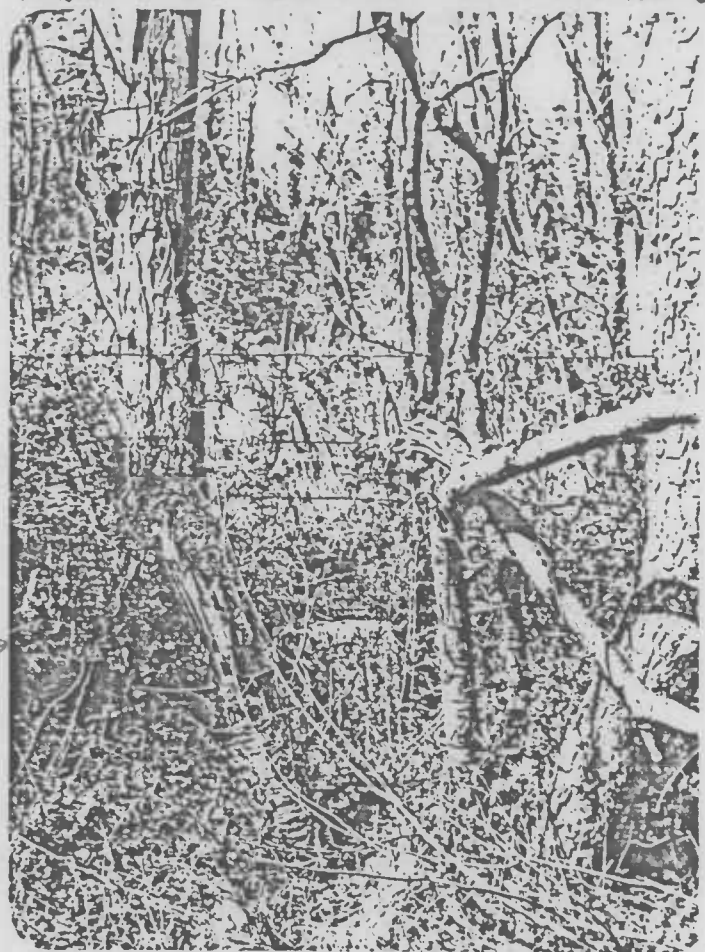
42'30"

4397



MASON & DIXON'S WEST LINE: MILESTONE NO. 69(72)

CARR-305



Small →

VIEW NORTH PHOTO: ALICE HANCOCK 4/19/80 (1980.16.18)



VIEW SOUTH PHOTO: ALICE HANCOCK 4/19/80 (1980.16.19)

MASON & DIXON WEST LINE
MILESTONE NO. 69(72)
CARR-305

69

A black and white photograph showing a large, rectangular, heavily textured object, likely a concrete marker or monument, partially obscured by dense, tangled vegetation and thin, light-colored branches. The object's surface is mottled with dark spots, possibly lichen or weathering. The number '69' is printed in a large, white, sans-serif font in the lower-left corner of the image.

MASON & DIXON'S 'WEST LINE' MILESTONE NO. 60 (72), ORIGINAL (1767)
 SOUTH (N) & EAST FACES

PHOTO: LUCE MARTIN 4/19/80 (1980-2 15)



CALL 305

HANN EDIXON'S WEST LINE: MILESTONE NO. 67 (72)
NORTH, 2) CROSS FACES, ORIGINAL (1767)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 4/19/80 (1980.16.14)